

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4720

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2151

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR GW CH

SUBJECT: SCHMIDT'S VISIT TO CHINA

REF: BONN 18230

1. FRG EMBOFF'S REVIEW OF CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S VISIT PARALLELED CLOSELY AND CONFORMED EXCELLENT REVIEW OF TRIP GIVEN REFTTEL. HE DID STRESS PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE FRG EMBASSY HERE ATTACHES TO CHINESE LEARNING MORE OF SCHMIDT AT FIRST HAND. BEFORE THE VISIT, CHINESE SEEMED TO HAVE RATHER SHALLOW IMPRESSION OF SCHMIDT BASED PRIMARILY ON NEWSPAPER REPORTING--THIS CONTRASTED WITH THEIR SEVERAL LONG CONVERSATIONS WITH STRAUSS--AND THEY SEEMED TO BE GENUINELY SURPRISED AT THE SIMILARITY OF THE VIEWS OF STRAUSS AND SCHMIDT ON NUMEROUS ISSUES. AT SAME TIME, SCHMIDT INDICATED TO CHINESE THAT THERE WERE DEFINITE LIMITS BEYOND WHICH PRC COULD NOT GO IN ITS EFFORT TO USE FRG AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION.

2. ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE TALKS, HE NOTED THAT TENG COVERED THE USUAL GROUND ON EUROPE, EMPHASIZING IN PARTICULAR THE DANGERS OF SOVIET EFFORTS IN SOUTHERN
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EUROPE. TENG'S WARNINGS ABOUT AN OUTBREAK OF WORLD

WAR III, HOWEVER, SEEMED TO THE GERMANS TO BE SOMEWHAT
LESS IMMEDIATE THAN HIS RECENT STATEMENTS TO OTHER LEADERS
AND TENG SURPRISINGLY OMITTED ANY REFERENCE AT ALL TO
EVENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WHILE GIVING VERBAL SUPPORT
TO GERMAN REUNIFICATION, CHINESE BROKE NO NEW GROUND ON
ISSUE DURING THE VISIT AND THEY REMAIN UNWILLING TO MAKE
GESTURES ON BERLIN TO BACK UP THEIR STATEMENTS.

3. COMMENTS ON SINKIANG BEING REPORTED SEPTTEL.
BUSH

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